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United States Department of Justice United States Attorney's Office District of Minnesota

News Release

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Minneapolis police officer indicted for corruption

An indictment returned today by a federal grand jury in Minneapolis charges Michael D. Roberts, 57, with two counts of depriving the citizens of Minnesota of the defendant's honest services and one count of unauthorized access to a protected computer.

Roberts was a police officer with the Minneapolis Police Department at the time of the offenses charged in the indictment.

If convicted, Roberts faces a potential maximum penalty of 20 years in prison on each deprivation of honest services count and five years on the unauthorized access count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge.

Roberts is scheduled to appear in federal court at 11 a.m. tomorrow for an initial appearance to answer the indictment.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Christian S. Wilton and Tim Rank.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.